

ST. PAUL
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH



Newsletter Date:
**February
2025**

MESSENGER

"Love, Hope, and Faith"

"And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three,
and the greatest of these is love."

1 Corinthians 13:13

Dear Beloved St. Paul United Methodist Church Family,
This month, I invite you to join me in reflecting on the timeless wisdom in 1 Corinthians, chapters 13 through 15. These chapters offer a treasure trove of guidance for living out our faith, centered on the enduring power of love, the assurance of hope in the resurrection, and the call to serve God with faithfulness.

The Way of Love: In chapter 13, Paul eloquently describes love as the greatest gift and the foundation of the Christian life. Love is not just a feeling but a deliberate choice to be patient, kind, and selfless.



It does not envy or boast, nor does it keep a record of wrongs. This chapter challenges us to examine how we love others—within our families, church, and community. Are we reflecting the sacrificial love of Christ in our relationships? Let us recommit to making love the hallmark of our lives, for without it, all our efforts are empty.

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DATES TO REMEMBER:

- February 14th—
Valentine's Day
- February 17th—
Presidents' Day
- March 1st—
St. Paul Yard Sale
- March 22nd—
Crafting Love Card Event

ST. PAUL UMC VISION STATEMENT

"St. Paul United Methodist Church is a Christ-Centered family that offers H.O.P.E., by responding to God's love and grace as Christian disciples"



continued from page 1

The Hope of the Resurrection: Chapter 15 brings us to the core of our faith—the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Paul highlights that the resurrection is not merely a historical event but the foundation of our eternal hope. Because Christ has risen, we, too, will share in His victory over sin and death. This hope empowers us to confront life's challenges with courage and joy, knowing that our work in the Lord is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:58). As we look forward, let us anchor our hope in God's promises and share this good news with others.

Gifts and Service in Faith: Chapter 14 encourages us to use our spiritual gifts for the edification of the church. Whether through teaching, encouragement, or acts of service, each of us has a role in building up the body of Christ. Paul's instructions remind us that our gifts are meant to glorify God and bless others rather than draw attention to ourselves. How are you using the gifts God has given you to serve His kingdom? This month, I urge you to seek ways to contribute to the life and mission of our church.

As we move forward together, let us be a church marked by love, steadfast in hope, and active in faith. Whether we comfort those in need, share the gospel, or extend a kind word, let's strive to embody the teachings of these chapters in every aspect of our lives.

I am grateful for each of you and how you reflect Christ's love in our church and community. Let's continue to pray for one another, grow in unity, and continue the work God has set before us.



In Christ,
Rev. Myungha Baek

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE
MISSY LAUBER, CHAIR

Upcoming Spring Event:



Easter Egg Hunt

Date: Saturday, April 19th

Time: 1:00 –3:00 pm



We will be looking for help with eggs, candy and extra hands to assist.
More information to come!

FINANCE
KAREN HILL, CHAIR

St. Paul UMC Finances as of 31 December 2024

	Actual (YTD)	Budget (YTD)	Annual Budget	Annual %
Contributions	\$ 320,714.52	\$ 348,825.00	\$ 348,825.00	91.9%
Expenses	\$ 337,733.02	\$ 348,825.00	\$ 348,825.00	96.8%

The St. Paul UMC congregations has graciously made an additional \$20,608 in benevolent (restricted giving) to benefit the ministries, missions and those in need in 2024.

Current Month (December)	Actual	Budget	Variance (better / worse)	Annual %
Contributions	\$ 29,482.77	\$ 29,503.00	(\$20.23)	-0.1%
Expenses	\$ 22,829.75	\$ 36,533.10	\$ 13,703.35	37.5%

2024 Finance Summary by month will be available upon request.

2024 BUDGET = \$347,066

As a non-profit, the budget assumes unrestricted income and expenses are equal for a net income of \$0.

Expenses continue to be higher than income each month.

Goal: Monitor financial status of St Paul United Methodist Church to support the continue upkeep of the facilities and support for the Mission and Evangelical activities of the church.

Stewardship: 2025 begins a new year of financial responsibility and reporting. The annual operating expense budget was approved by the Church Council at the December 2024 meeting. Continued monitoring and awareness is required to ensure the business of St Paul UMC will continue to support the church mission to serve the community and others.

2025 Operating Budget: \$347,066

Additional giving is encouraged to support the 2025 Rise Against Hunger event planned for Saturday April 12, 2025. This event will pack 10,000 meals which will be sent somewhere in the world where food insecurities exist. The meals packed in 2023 and 2024 were sent to Madagascar. This event has a cost of \$4,300 and additional giving is required to meet this mission critical commitment. As of 1/10/2025, we had approximately \$1,300 toward this goal and will continue to report on our progress through the end of March when payment is required.



	Annual Budget Comparison		
	2023	2024	2025
Income	\$ 359,378.35	\$ 341,654.04	\$ 347,066.00
Expenses	\$ 431,914.46	\$ 399,622.04	\$ 347,066.00
Total Net Income (Loss)	(\$72,536.11)	(\$57,968.00)	\$0.00



PRAYER COMMITTEE

BARB MACK

The purpose of the prayer committee is to encourage prayer. Prayer seems so easy to some of us and some of us truly struggle. Prayer may be difficult, but the truth is that prayer is a conversation with God. As stated, before making a cup of tea and sitting and enjoying a visit with our Heavenly Father, sharing our thoughts, deeds, and actions. He knows everything but just wants to hear from us, to share a relationship.

Several of our members found themselves struggling with the world around us and how things could happen as they were. We shared among ourselves, and the truth of the situation is that our faith and belief can be challenged but our God is always with us. We need to turn to Him. We may question, we may argue, we may cry and even holler but the most important thing is we remember, we are His child, and He wants to be with us. He knows each of us as He has counted every hair on our heads and calls us by our names. He has empowered us with freedom of choice. He hopes that we choose Him every time but is not surprised when we shy away, but still, He is there with open arms and His powerful love.

It helps when we create time every day to share with God, to read His word. To praise and honor him but most importantly take Him into our innermost circle and share from our hearts. The prayer committee answers the call to prayer and as we grow have followed the lead of Mr. Melvin and our members are answering the call with prayers of their own being shared. It is a wonderful, touching experience to see the hearts opening to express care and love for others.

We hear it is hard to share, I do not know how to pray, what should I say, I talk to God all the time in my head, but I do not know how to pray. If you are talking to God all the time in your head, you are already praying. If you truly struggle and would like someone to share prayer with you, please let anyone on the prayer committee know.

We pray for all our church, our church family, our Pastor, and Sunday School, we pray for you. We would appreciate it if you would pray for us too!

***The Prayer Committee will meet again on
Wednesday, February 19th at noon in the
Fellowship Hall.***





SPPRC
Staff Pastor Parish
Relations Committee

DONNA HOUSE, CHAIR

The SPPRC met on January 2, 2025 and began reviewing Lay Staff Job Descriptions. They have asked our lay staff, Nerissa, Cindy, Missy and Sherry, for input on their current job descriptions. The goal is to revise as necessary and develop Lay Staff Evaluations to be completed this spring.

As a reminder, SPPRC meetings are closed as established by the Book of Discipline, and all information shared in the committee is confidential. The congregation may share any joys or concerns with the committee.

TRUSTEES JIM HOUSE, CHAIR

The St. Paul UMC Trustees meet on the first **Saturday** of each month for their business meeting and work time around the church campus. Items discussed include church projects, church maintenance and finances. Additional work sessions are scheduled as needed to maintain the facilities and complete projects.



Completed projects in the months of December include:

- 1) Repaired Sanctuary Furnace
- 2) Cleaned all HVAC systems in SPUMPS classrooms
- 3) Replaced parsonage faucets in kitchen and master bathroom
- 4) Repaired water filter system for SPUMC campus
- 5) Repaired leaking faucet in bathroom between classrooms 12/14
- 6) Repaired loose door handle in women's bathroom in CLC
- 7) Repaired leaking faucet in women's bathroom in CLC
- 8) Moved drum set from sanctuary to undercroft
- 9) Scheduled inspection of fire suppressant system in CLC kitchen
- 10) Coordinated snow removal for parking lot and sidewalks

Upcoming projects include:

- 1) On hold: SPUMC Home Mission Project - The Trustees are planning to rehab the current Fellowship Hall adjacent to the sanctuary. James Ritter is spearheading the project. Dates to follow to lend a hand with cleaning out the closets, drywall, insulation, flooring, ceiling tiles, etc... This is a facelift that is LONG overdue!
- 2) Paint the church office
- 3) Create signage to include direction signs to sanctuary, CLC, and fellowship hall
- 4) Continue floor stripping, scrubbing and waxing classrooms in CLC.
- 5) Rekey locks for doors into the CLC

Many thanks to the very dedicated team of Trustees who put in countless hours to maintain our beautiful campus.

The trustees maintain a detailed list of projects across our campus and are working to complete them. Please inform a trustee if you see any area that needs repair and/or if you have an idea for improvement. We want St. Paul UMC to be an inviting, safe space for all to worship and fellowship.

**LAY LEADER
DONNA HOUSE**

The Solomons Christmas Walk was Saturday, December 14th and St. Paul participated for the very first time. A group of 19 dedicated volunteers handed out over 350 cups of free hot chocolate! They also shared information about our Christmas services and many new folks attended on Christmas Eve. Candy canes were handed out to the young and donated Dunkin' Donut gift cards were given to the adults. Many thanks to Nerissa for coordinating and for all the wonderful volunteers. (Did you see our picture on the Baynet?)

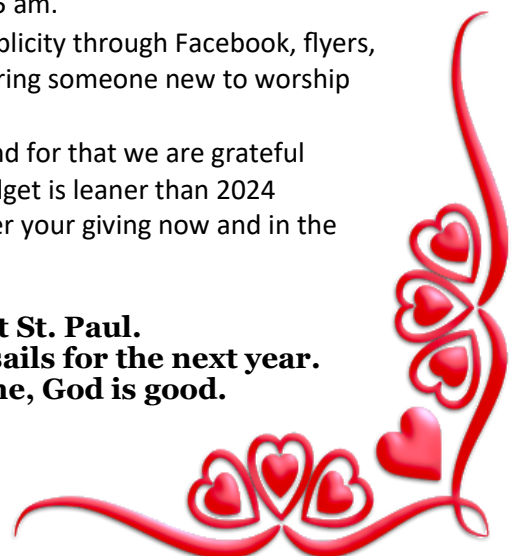


The poinsettias were a beautiful addition to our sanctuary. Many thanks to all who donated. Look for a flyer in the next 6 weeks for flowers for Easter. Kudos to all who helped to decorate the sanctuary and CLC and to those who helped pack up the decorations for next year.

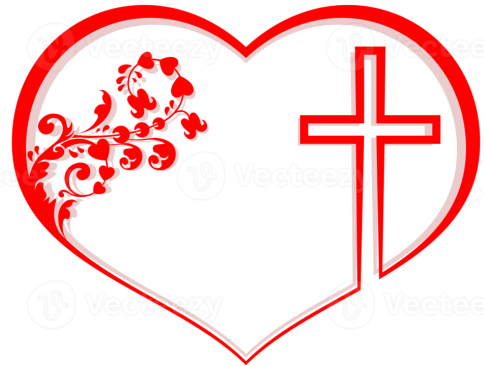
As a reminder, at our August "Wind in Our Sails" meeting, our congregation set three priorities for the upcoming year. In order, they were:

- 1) **Continue with ONE service.** It is such a joy having all of us together each Sunday. Morning worship starts at 9:15 with praise music and announcements are at 9:30 am. Fellowship time follows, and Sunday School begins around 10:45 am.
- 2) **We want our church to GROW** so our second priority will be publicity through Facebook, flyers, community outreach and more. Each person is encouraged to bring someone new to worship or one of our monthly activities.
- 3) **Financial Stability.** We have made positive changes in budget and for that we are grateful but our income last year was still below expenses. The 2025 budget is leaner than 2024 and we will continue to tighten our purse strings. Please consider your giving now and in the future towards the general budget.

**The Wind of God is blowing at St. Paul.
We've checked the sails and have set the sails for the next year.
God is good, all the time. All the time, God is good.**



WORSHIP COMMITTEE
BARB MILLER



The Worship Committee last met on November 21, 2024.

Sunday Service Attendance:

Dec. 1	61 + 5 on-line	
Dec. 8	62 + 10 on-line	
Dec. 15	67 + 8 on-line	
Dec. 21		Longest Night Service
Dec. 22	82 + 7 on-line	Cantata
Dec. 24	41 + __ on-line	4pm Christmas Eve Service
Dec. 24	71 + 4 on-line	7pm Candlelight Service
Dec. 24	32 + 1 on-line	11pm Candlelight Service
Dec. 29	61 + 5 on-line	
Jan. 5	63 + 8 on-line	

Recent Services:

- Poinsettias displayed
- December 21: Longest Night (Saturday)
- December 22: Cantata
- December 24: Christmas Eve (Tuesday)--4pm Family, 7pm and 11pm Candlelight
- December 29: Melvin spoke, 5th Sunday Breakfast
- January 5, 2025: Epiphany Sunday-Blessing of 2025 Leaders

Upcoming Services:

- January 11, 1:00pm: Decorations to be taken down in the Sanctuary - Volunteers needed.
- January 12: Baptism Renewal Service
- January 12, 19, 26 Services: Discipleship Series
- February 16: Scouting Sunday

Next Worship Committee Meeting: Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 6:30pm

We will prepare for the Easter season beginning in March - Shrove Tuesday.



SUNDAY SCHOOL BARB MACK, SUPERINTENDENT

Miss Joan Sampson has agreed to lead the adult Sunday School class for all those interested in sharing guided discussions concerning spiritual self-examination, your place with God. The class will begin on January 19, 2025. Miss Joan will have surgery at the end of March and hopefully someone else will lead the class while she heals. Please come and share time, exploring your place with God.

Sherry continues working with the Middle School class. This is a special time of sharing and growing with God using both their many talents and skills. We continue to leave the doors open between the classrooms to meet Safe Sanctuary requirements. Anyone interested in being a part of helping our young teens walk closer with God please speak to Sherry or myself.

The elementary class is combined with preschool up to 2nd grade currently. The children enjoy learning and celebrating being members of this church family. Karen Wright is sharing music with the children to start class.

Currently we are preparing an updated list of substitutes and special talents to share with the children. If you are interested in sharing a special talent or an important moment you shared with God, please let me know. The church family enriches the children's journey.

We are utilizing the talents of a special angel from home to provide some of the art projects the children share with themselves and the church family. If you would like to share with the children a gift you have from home, please let me know. All together we support the children.

Our Sunday School is small but with God's blessings it will grow. The younger children are excited to share with the church family and look forward to bringing special treats to share with you. They enjoy it when you welcome them.

Finally, the Sunday School would like to sincerely thank Susan Baker for all her hard work and efforts to support both the children and teachers over the past years. Susan will continue to work with the Sunday School and help us to share God's great love and care for all the children.

We hope the congregation will continue to pray for the growth of the Sunday School. You make a difference for our students!



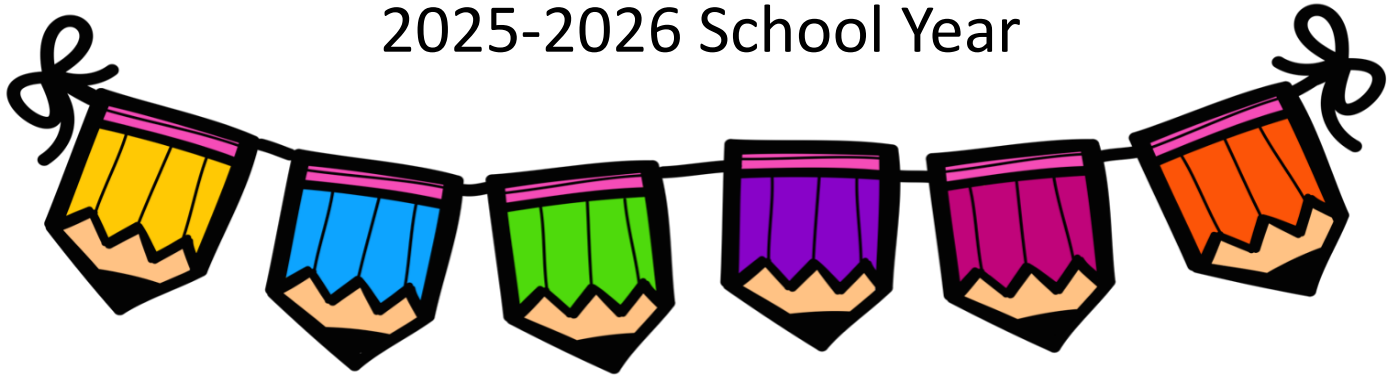
- 02/02 Patty King
- 02/06 Sandy Thiess
- 02/06 Lynn Powell
- 02/07 McKenzie Munday
- 02/11 Lewis Schmidt
- 02/16 Logan Powell
- 02/16 Phil Garber
- 02/19 Ethan Benton
- 02/20 Dawn Benton
- 02/26 Carter Nagers
- 02/27 Tom Younger
- 02/28 Stephanie Pulsinelli

S. P. U. M. P. S.

St. Paul United Methodist Preschool

Open Enrollment has Begun!

2025-2026 School Year



Part Time Preschool

3/4 Year Old – 5 Day AM – Monday-Friday – 8:30 AM until 11:30 AM

3-5 Year Old – 5 Day PM – Monday-Friday – 12:30 PM until 3:30 PM

4/5 Year Old – 5 Day AM – Monday-Friday – 8:30 AM until 11:30 AM

Extended Day Program

Monday-Friday 7:30 AM until 4:30 PM

Contact **SPUMPS** (410) 326-3615
or email spumps07@yahoo.com
for more information and secure your spot today—
spaces fill quickly!



SPUMPS



COMMUNITY YARD SALE RUMMAGE SALE

March 1, 2025
9AM-2PM



St. Paul UMC- Lusby
11000 HG Trueman Rd.
410-326-4475



cyleader@stpaulumc-lusby.org

CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE

**INDOOR RENTAL
SPACES
AVAILABLE**



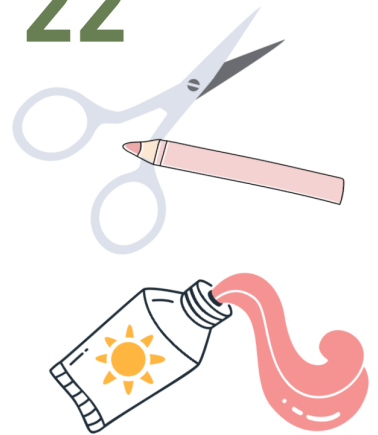
Crafting Love

Join us for a special Card-Making Open House!
Join the St. Paul Card Committee as we spend the day creating
handmade cards to share encouragement and love with our
church family and community.

Saturday, March 22

9 AM - 2 PM

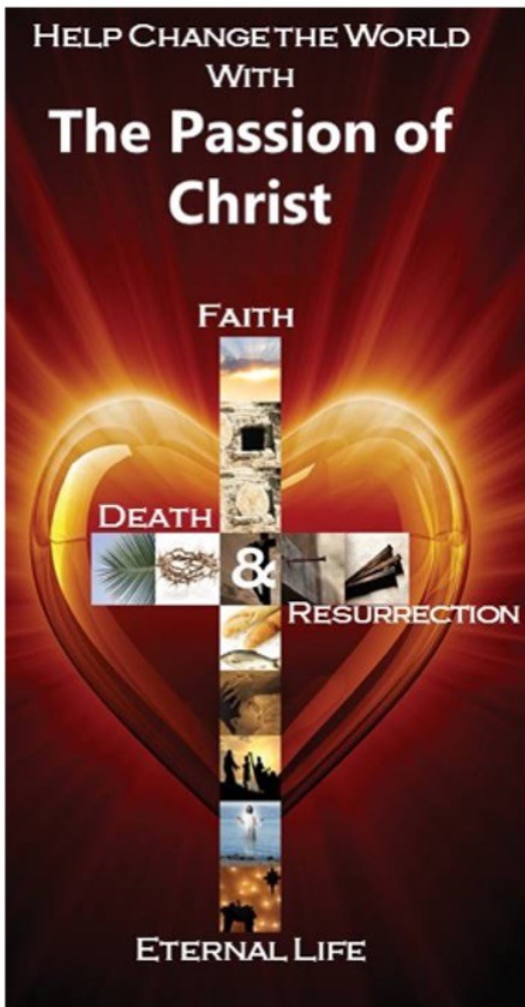
Beginners Welcome



**No Experience
Needed !!**
Just bring your
creativity and
fellowship!
Supplies will be
provided.

Continental Breakfast
& Snacks Provided
BYO Lunch

St Paul United Methodist Church
11000 HG Trueman Rd * Lusby, MD
410-326-4475 stpaulumcinfo@gmail.com



Passion of Christ

- Participants needed to tell the story of Jesus' love and sacrifice. Come join us as a witness to the community. Tryouts at:

Southern Community Center
20 Appeal Lane, Lusby, MD

Saturday, February 22 10 AM – 2 PM

Saturday, March 1 10 AM – 2 PM

Or submit video auditions to
rogersdiamond@gmail.com

Webpage: PassionOfChristSOMD.org
 Email: PassionOfChristSOMD@gmail.com
 Facebook: Passion of Christ Southern Maryland

Showtimes and Dates:

April 18th and 19th, 2025
8:00 PM

How can the Arc help you?

- * Advocacy * Autism Waiver * Behavioral Support Services
- * Case Management * Consistency and Coordination of Services
- * Day Program and Community Learning Services
- * Dedicated Transitioning Youth Specialist * Family Support Services
- * Personal Supports * People on the Go Southern Maryland
- * Residential Program * Vocational Support * Worships and Training

For more information, please contact:

Stacey Warner at swarner@arcsomd.org



Tea Party in the Garden



Saturday, February 22nd
3:00pm—5:00pm

Please join us for an afternoon of tea, yummy treats and fun. We will have a silent auction and door prizes.

Please wear your favorite Tea Party attire.

To purchase tickets scan the QR code or email:

patuxentband@gmail.com



SCAN ME

Tea Party—\$180

Adult Tea Party—\$15

Child Tea Party—\$10

COSMIC Symphony Presents

SONG & DANCE

*Featuring Ellyanna Tyson,
2024 Young Artist Competition Winner*

Directed by Will Esterling



FREE CONCERTS - DONATIONS ACCEPTED!

Cosmic
SYMPHONY
LOCAL TALENT - UNIVERSAL APPEAL

Saturday Feb. 22, 2025 @ 3:00 PM
Chesapeake Church
Huntingtown, MD

Sunday Feb. 23, 2025 @ 3:00 PM
Nancy R. & Norton T. Dodge PAC
St. Mary's College of Maryland



Details at www.linktr.ee/cosmicsymphony

LOST and FOUND

SPUMC has a "Lost and Found" basket stationed in the lobby of the Christian Life Center.

Contact the church office if you have any questions.

**Submissions for the March Messenger are due February 20th.
Thank you.**

Food Drop Lusby is the 3rd Friday of every month at Middleham Parking lot by SMILE, starting at 9 AM. The Maryland Food Bank provides fresh food for packing and distribution. If you can grocery shop you can enjoy a morning making a difference. Distribution Drivers are also needed.

DONATIONS FOR "SMILE" FOOD PANTRY

Non-perishable grocery items are collected each month from our Christian Life Center (CLC).

Please place your donations in the box labeled for SMILE.

Project Echo and CareNet also have donation boxes to support the needs of those they serve.

**More information is available in the Christian Life Center
Thank you for supporting our community missions.**

**St. Paul
United Methodist
Church**

11000 H G Trueman Rd,
Lusby, MD 20657

Phone:
410-326-4475

E-mail:
stpaulumcinfo@gmail.com

Web:
stpaulumc-lusby.org



Office Contacts & Information:

Senior Pastor.....Myungha Baek
PastorBaek@stpaulumc-lusby.org

Children and Youth Leader.....Sherry Mervine
cyleader@stpaulumc-lusby.org

Office Manager.....Nerissa Curtin
ncurtin@stpaulumc-lusby.org

Finance Manager.....Cindy Shippert
financemanager@stpaulumc-lusby.org

Church Custodian.....Missy Garber
missy.garber73@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday 9:30 am to 3:00 pm

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>26</p> <p>9:15am - Worship (Service) @ Sanctuary 10:30am - Fellowship 10:45am - Sunday School Classes/CLC 2pm - CT Baseball 12U/AC @ Activity</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6:45pm - Women's Bible</p>	<p>28</p> <p>4:30pm - OLSB Basketball @ Activity 8pm - BB Softball 12U/AC @ Activity 8:15pm - Praise Team 8:30pm - Bible Study/Library @ Library 7pm - BS Troop/FH @ Fellowship Hall 7pm - CS Committee Mtg/Rm 10 @ CLC.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8am - Heart/Faith @ Fellowship Hall 8pm - SMART Baseball/AC @ Activity 7pm - Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary @ 7:30pm - AA/FH @ Fellowship Hall 7:30pm - Scout Leaders Meeting/Rm. 10</p>	<p>30</p> <p>4:30pm - OLSB Basketball @ Activity 8:30pm - SPRC Meeting/Library @ 7pm - Cub Scouts/Rm 10,11,12,13,14.</p>	<p>31</p> <p>4:30pm - OLSB Basketball @ Activity 8pm - AA/FH @ Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8am - Trustees/FH @ Fellowship Hall 8am - Community Indoor Yard Sale/AC @ 10am - GH Scouts Mtg/FH @ Fellowship</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:15am - Worship (Service) @ Sanctuary 10:30am - Fellowship 10:45am - Sunday School Classes/CLC 2pm - CT Baseball 12U/AC @ Activity 4pm - CCA Little League Tryouts/AC @</p>	<p>10</p> <p>4:30pm - OLSB Basketball @ Activity 6:45pm - Women's Bible</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:30am - Faith Circle/Monthly/Library 4:30pm - OLSB Basketball @ Activity 8pm - BB Softball 12U/AC @ Activity 8:15pm - Praise Team 8:30pm - Bible Study/Library @ Library 7pm - BS Troop/FH @ Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8am - Heart/Faith @ Fellowship Hall 8pm - SMART Baseball/AC @ Activity 7pm - Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary @ 7:30pm - AA/FH @ Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>13</p> <p>4:30pm - OLSB Basketball @ Activity 8:30pm - Finance Mtg/Library @ Library 8:30pm - Council Mtg/Library @ Library 7pm - Cub Scouts/Rm 10,11,12,13,14.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8pm - CT Baseball 12U/AC @ Activity 8pm - AA/FH @ Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10am - GH Scouts Mtg/FH @ Fellowship 1pm - CCA Little League/AC @ Activity</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:15am - Worship (Service) @ Sanctuary 10:30am - Fellowship 10:45am - Sunday School Classes/CLC 2pm - CT Baseball 12U/AC @ Activity</p>	<p>17</p> <p>WOMEN'S CROSS-TRINIDENT STUDY SPRING'S CROSS-TRINIDENT STUDY 8pm - Carver's Table 10U/AC @ Activity 6:45pm - Women's Bible</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8pm - BB Softball 12U/AC @ Activity 8:15pm - Praise Team 8:30pm - Bible Study/Library @ Library 7pm - BS Troop/FH @ Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8am - Heart/Faith @ Fellowship Hall 12pm - Prayer Committee Mtg/FH @ 8pm - SMART Baseball/AC @ Activity 7pm - Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary @ 7:30pm - AA/FH @ Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>20</p> <p>NEWSMART ANNUAL DUE 8pm - CCA Little League/AC @ Activity</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8pm - CCA Little League/AC @ Activity 8pm - AA/FH @ Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8am - CS Bible & Gold Banquet/AC @</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9:15am - Worship (Service) @ Sanctuary 10:30am - Fellowship 10:45am - Sunday School Classes/CLC 2pm - CT Baseball 12U/AC @ Activity</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8pm - Carver's Table 10U/AC @ Activity 6:45pm - Women's Bible</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8pm - BB Softball 12U/AC @ Activity 8:15pm - Praise Team 8:30pm - Bible Study/Library @ Library 7pm - BS Troop/FH @ Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8am - Heart/Faith @ Fellowship Hall 8pm - SMART Baseball/AC @ Activity 7pm - Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary @ 7:30pm - AA/FH @ Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8pm - CCA Little League/AC @ Activity 7pm - Cub Scouts/Rm 10,11,12,13,14.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8pm - AA/FH @ Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>1</p>